Standing Committee on the installation of the Cobalt therapy

1039. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a standing Committee to process applications for installing cobalt therapy units needed by different hospitals, medical colleges and institutions in the country and if so, what are the details of the work done so far by the said Committee;

(b) the number of meetings of the said standing Committee held so far and the average time interval between its meetings; and

(c) the names of hospitals, colleges etc. whose applications for installing cobalt therapy units pending with the standing Committee and what measures are proposed to be taken by Government to expedite the Committee's work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee mainly considers and makes recommendations in regard to requests for the installation of Tele-therapy Units including Linear Accelerators for various hospitals/ medical institutions and other Governmental and non-Governmental Agencies for treatment of Cancer.

(b) The Committee meets annually and has met 15 times so far.

(c) The last meeting of the Committee was held on the 26th July, 1988 and at present no application from any hospital/ college is pending.

Assistance from Netherlands and East Germany for setting up of an inland port

1040. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take the assistance of Netherlands and East Germany for the setting up of a modern inland port in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what would be the salient features of this port proposed to be constructed and what would be the total cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Assistance of the Government of Netherlands nas been sought for setting up of a modern inland port at Patna.

(b) and (c) A pre-feasibility study in this regard has been proposed by Inland Waterways Authority of India for Dutch technical assistance. Full details on the project are, therefore, not known at this stage.

दिल्ली में खाद्य अपमिश्रण के मामले

1041. श्री कपिल वर्मा :

श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की पा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान दिल्ली में खाद्य अपमिश्रण निवारण अधिनियम, 1954 और खाद्य अपमिश्रण निवारण नियम, 1955 के अन्तर्गत कितने मामले पाये गये और कितने व्यक्तियों को दंडित किया गया ;

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान दिल्ली में खाद्य अपमिश्रण का प्रतिशत कितना रहा ;

(ग) क्या खाद्य अपमिश्रण निवारण अधिनियम, 1954 और नियम, 1955 खाद्य पदार्थों की शुद्धता, गुणात्मकता व स्तर बनाये रखने के लिए पर्याप्त है ; और

(घ) यदि नही, तो सरकार इस संबंध मे सुधार लाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय मे राज्य मंत्री (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे) (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान दिल्ली में खाद्य अपमिश्रण निवारण अधिनियम और उसके अधीन बने नियमों के अंतर्गत पता लगाए मामलों और दंडित किए गए व्यक्तियों की संख्या इस प्रकार है:

वर्ष	पता लगाए मामले	पाए गए अपराधी
1985	244	82
1986	235	78
1987	262	69

(ख) दिल्ली प्रशासन से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार दिल्ली में वर्ष, 1985, 1986, तथा 1987 में अपमिश्रण का प्रतिशत क्रमश: 19.98 प्रतिशत, 16.9 प्रतिशत और 15.7 प्रतिशत है।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Ship-repairing yard at Haldia

1042. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state what are the details of progress of the proposed ship-repairing yard at Haldia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): There is no proposal before the Government for creation of a ship-repair yard at Haldia at present.

Inefficacy of the Cholera Vaccine

1043. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee of health scientists under the Chairmanship of the Director General of Health Services had reviewed the efficacy of the cholera vaccine and its use in combating the epidemic and had opined that such mass inoculation was of little use in tackling the disease and had also specifically advised against the use of vaccination to combat an epidemic as reported in "The Indian Express" dated the 16th July, 1988 and if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(b) whether it is a fact that in controlled field trials, it was found that the protection provided by the vaccine was less than 50 per cent. even after two doses were administered within an interval of one month, and that the vaccine did not bring down the severity of the disease and if so, what is Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the press report which appeared in the Indian Express dated 16.7.1988.

A meeting of the Group of Experts was held at New Delhi on 29.1.1988 to review the efficacy of cholera vaccine and its use in natural calamities such as floods and drought and routine public health practices. The Group recommended as under —

—routine anticipatory cholera innoculation in public health practice is of little use and be discontinued.

—cholera vaccination is not recommended to combat the epidemic if it had occured since it neither contains the spread of disease nor saves the lives of effected persons and distracts the attention and resources of health authorities from much needed and effective environmental control measures including health education;

—cholera vaccination facilities can continue to be provided on demand on a voluntary basis at all hospitals ad health centres;

—as an adjunct to the other important